AP/3732 IFW

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Christian Knöpfle et al.

Group Art Unit:

3732

Serial Number:

09/921,233

Examiner:

Philogene, Pedro

Filed:

August 1, 2001

Title:

SELF-RETAINING IMPLANT AND A

DEVICE FOR SECURING THE IMPLANT

Attorney Docket No.: 60,500-072

## **RESPONSE AFTER FINAL**

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action from the Examiner dated March 24, 2004 (which, as described below, is <u>A DUPLICATE</u>), please consider the accompanying remarks.